

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-20 have been rejected.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claims 1-15 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Sasaki, et al.* (US Patent No. 6,355,905, hereinafter “Sasaki”).

Claims 16, 17, 19 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sasaki in view of *Archenhold, et al.* (US Patent Publication No. 2003/0057888, hereinafter “Archenhold”).

The aforementioned rejections are respectfully traversed for the reasons given below.

Sasaki discloses a laser processing apparatus but fails to teach or suggest specific limitations of the present claims.

Claim 1 requires “a controller that, when operably coupled to a light source emitting light at a selectively variable output power, determines an output power for emitted light based upon measurements of one or more of: forward voltage and current across the light source, ambient temperature around the light source, and a factor specific to mounting of the light source.”

Claim 9 includes a similar limitation, requiring “wherein the determination of the output power is based upon measurements of one or more of: forward voltage and current across the light source, ambient temperature around the light source, and a factor specific to mounting of the light source.”

Claim 15 similarly requires “determines an output power for emitted light based upon measurements of one or more of: forward voltage and current across the light source, ambient temperature around the light source, and a factor specific to mounting of the light source.”

Sasaki does not teach or suggest measuring ambient temperature or factors specific to mounting of the light source at all, so Sasaki clearly cannot anticipate these limitations. The other claimed limitation relates to determining the output power for emitted light based upon measurements of the forward voltage and current across the light source. Although Sasaki does include means for measuring some voltages and currents, Sasaki does not appear to teach or suggest measuring a forward voltage and current across the light source, as that term is known to those of skill in the art.

As such, Sasaki cannot anticipate independent claims 1, 9, or 15, and all anticipation rejections are therefore overcome.

Similarly, claims 2 and 10 require using the forward voltage to determine a forward current through the light source. Since Sasaki does not address using a forward voltage at all, Sasaki certainly does not teach using the forward voltage to determine a forward current. As a result, claims 2, 3, 10, and 11 cannot be anticipated.

Claim 4 requires “the forward voltage is employed to determine a die temperature for the light source, and wherein the output power is determined based further upon the die temperature.” Claim 12 has a similar limitation. Sasaki does not disclose a forward voltage or a die temperature. In specific response to the Office Action’s inherency comment, Sasaki does not disclose a laser diode, so Sasaki also does not teach that a “laser diode is on a die”.

Other similar limitations, not taught or suggested by Sasaki, exist in the other claims rejected as being anticipated. All anticipation rejections are therefore overcome.

Regarding the obviousness rejection of claims 17, 16, 19, and 20, those claims require a forward voltage. This is not taught or suggested by Archenhold or any combination of Sasaki and Archenhold since Archenhold does not teach using a forward voltage. Therefore, the rejection of claims 17, 19, and 20 must fail.

With regard to claim 15, Archenhold does appear to disclose a temperature sensor in paragraph 50. However, this temperature sensor does not appear to allow the ambient temperature to be used to determine an output power for emitted light, as in the context of claim 15.

All rejections are therefore overcome.

CONCLUSION

As a result of the foregoing, the Applicant asserts that the remaining Claims in the Application are in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests an early allowance of such Claims.


If any issues arise, or if the Examiner has any suggestions for expediting allowance of this Application, the Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at *wmunck@davismunck.com*.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees connected with this communication or credit any overpayment to Davis Munck Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

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